

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the first page of their specification of the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, in order to identify a prior application of the above-identified application, Application No. 10/083,545, filed February 27, 2002, that is being relied upon in the above-identified application under 35 USC §120, and to incorporate the contents of this prior application in the above-identified application by reference in their entirety. Noting particularly that the Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.63 being used in the above-identified application is a copy of the Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.63 submitted in prior Application No. 10/083,545, it is respectfully submitted that these amendments to the specification do not add new matter to the application.

Applicants have amended their specification in order to consistently refer to reference characters 40A and 40B, with respect to the hollow shape members disposed respectively at the center area of the railway car and at the ends of the railway car, the hollow shape members at the ends formed of material softer than that of the hollow shape members disposed at the center area of the railway car. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments to the specification do not add new matter to the application.

Entry of the present amendments, and, subsequent thereto examination of the above-identified application on the merits in due course, are respectfully requested.

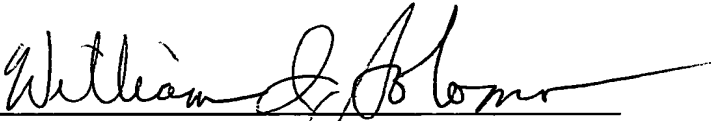
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648.41258CX1

(Case No. 648.41258CX1), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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